

Testimony of

**Lisa Chlebowski**

**East Haddam Educator**

Before the

Education Committee

March 15, 2023

Good afternoon, Senator McCrory, Representative Currey, Senator Berthel, Representative McCarty, and members of the Education Committee.

I testify today in support of House Bill 6884. This bill takes important steps toward addressing the educator shortage in Connecticut, showing educators that theirs is a respected profession, and ensuring that our classrooms and schools can provide the best possible education for our students.

Additionally, I hope that serious consideration is given toward awarding teachers who taught during the pandemic credit towards retirement (2 years credit for each year taught) as teachers risked their lives and lives of their family when teaching during the height of the pandemic. Awarding retirement credit for us is of the utmost importance.

Thank you.

